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PAROLE BOARD

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Tina M. Hurley
Chair

RECORD OF DECISION

IN THE MATTER OF

JOSEPH BEBO

W94166

TYPE OF HEARING: Review Hearing

DATE OF HEARING: October 20, 2022

DATE OF DECISION: January 12, 2023

PARTICIPATING BOARD MEMBERS: Tina Hurley, Dr. Charlene Bonner, Tonomey Coleman, Dr. Maryanne Galvin, James Kelcourse, Colette Santa

STATEMENT OF THE CASE: On March 5, 2009, following a jury trial in Plymouth County Superior Court, Joseph Bebo was convicted of second-degree murder in the death of Carl Schirmer. He was sentenced to life in prison with the possibility of parole

Mr. Bebo appeared before the Parole Board for a review hearing on October 20, 2022. He was represented by student attorneys from Boston College Law School. Mr. Bebo was denied parole at his 2020 initial hearing. The entire video recording of Mr. Bebo's October 20, 2022, hearing is fully incorporated by reference to the Board's decision.

DECISION OF THE BOARD: After careful consideration of all relevant facts, including the nature of the underlying offense, the age of the inmate at the time of offense, criminal record, institutional record, the inmate's testimony at the hearing, and the views of the public as expressed at the hearing or in written submissions to the Board, we conclude by unanimous vote that the inmate is a suitable candidate for parole.

Reserve to CRJ Brooke House after six months in lower security. On November 14, 2005, 24-year-old Mr. Bebo stabbed 28-year-old Carl Schirmer to death. Mr. Bebo has accepted full responsibility for the murder. He has had an overall positive institutional adjustment and has been sober for approximately ten years. The Board notes that Mr. Bebo has made an exceptional commitment to his rehabilitation by the completion of numerous programs. He has been a lead facilitator for Restorative Justice and has pursued vocational training. He has strong family and community support. He presented a detailed parole plan that addresses his need areas and includes realistic goals for employment and education.

The applicable standard used by the Board to assess a candidate for parole is: "Parole Board Members shall only grant a parole permit if they are of the opinion that there is a reasonable probability that, if such offender is released, the offender will live and remain at liberty without violating the law and that release is not incompatible with the welfare of society." 120 C.M.R. 300.04. In forming this opinion, the Board has taken into consideration Mr. Bebo's institutional behavior, as well as his participation in available work, educational, and treatment programs during the period of his incarceration. The Board has also considered a risk and needs assessment and whether risk reduction programs could effectively minimize Mr. Bebo's risk of recidivism. Applying this standard to the circumstances of Mr. Bebo's case, the Board is of the unanimous opinion that Joseph Bebo is rehabilitated and, therefore, merits parole at this time.

Special Conditions: Reserve to CRJ Brooke House; Waive work for two weeks; Curfew – Must be at home between 10pm and 6am; ELMO-electronic monitoring; Supervise for drugs, testing in accordance with agency policy; Supervise for liquor abstinence, testing in accordance with agency policy; Report to assigned MA Parole Office on day of release; No contact with victim's family; Must have substance abuse evaluation and follow recommendations; Counseling for adjustment/transition.

I certify that this is the decision and reasons of the Massachusetts Parole Board regarding the above referenced hearing.



Pamela Murphy, General Counsel

1/12/23
Date